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- (57) A bag (2) has an absorbent sheet (22) detachably attached thereto in such a manner that the sheet can be laid flat and an infant laid thereon. The sheet (22) is preferably attached face-to-face to a further sheet (14, 20) which itself has an end attached to the rest of the bag. Preferably the sheets can be folded at their middle and the folded sheets then swung about the line of attachment to the rest of the bag to bring them into a store position in which they lie against the side of the bag (2) with the further sheet (14, 20) outermost. The sheets are preferably secured in this position by zips (18).



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Fig. 1.

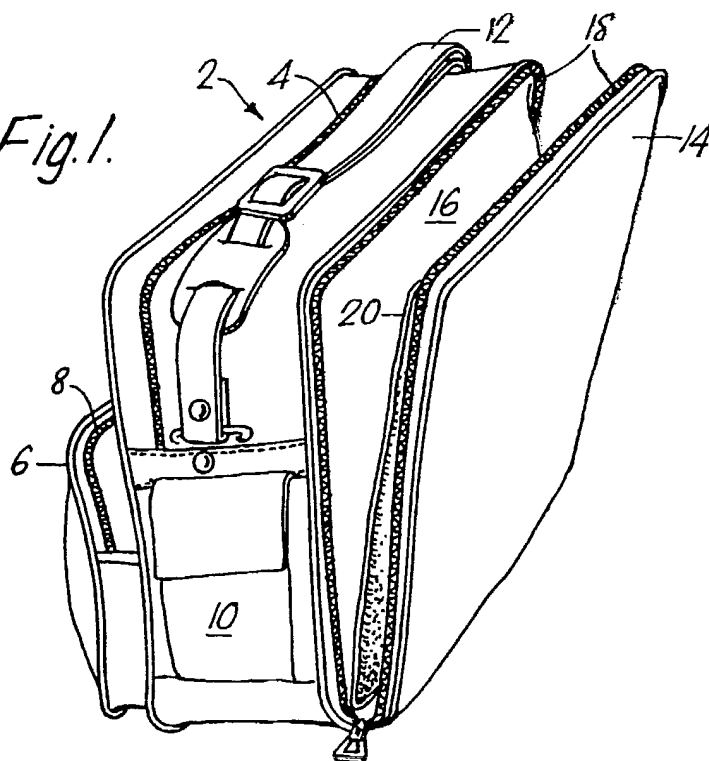


Fig. 2.

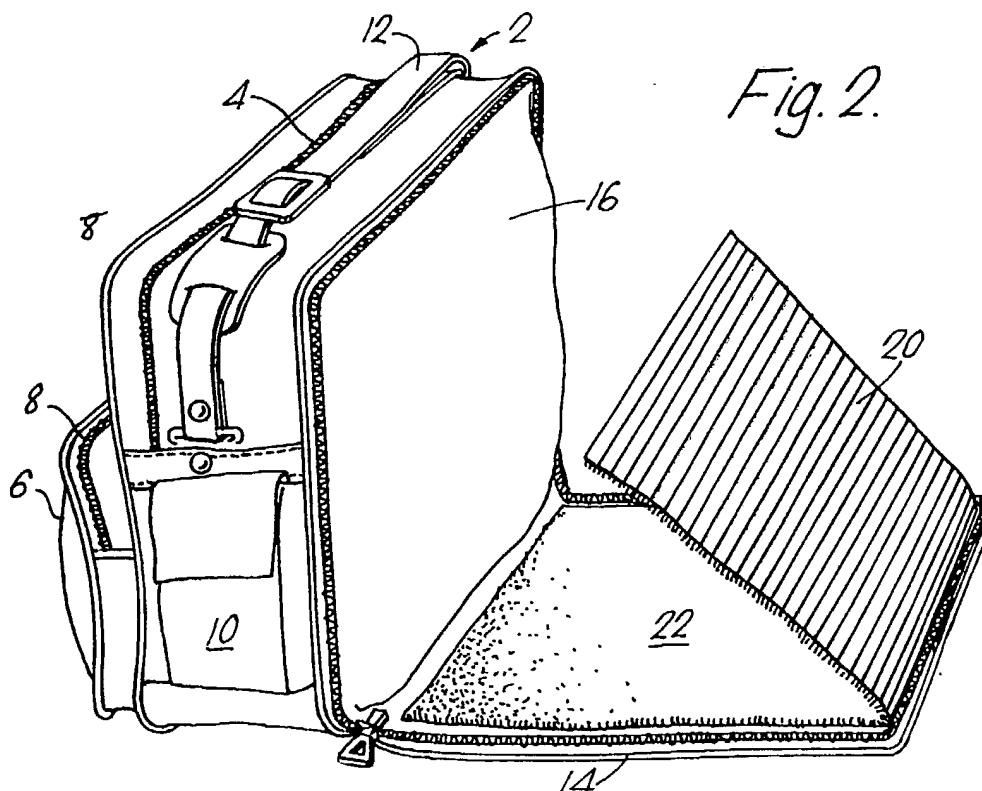
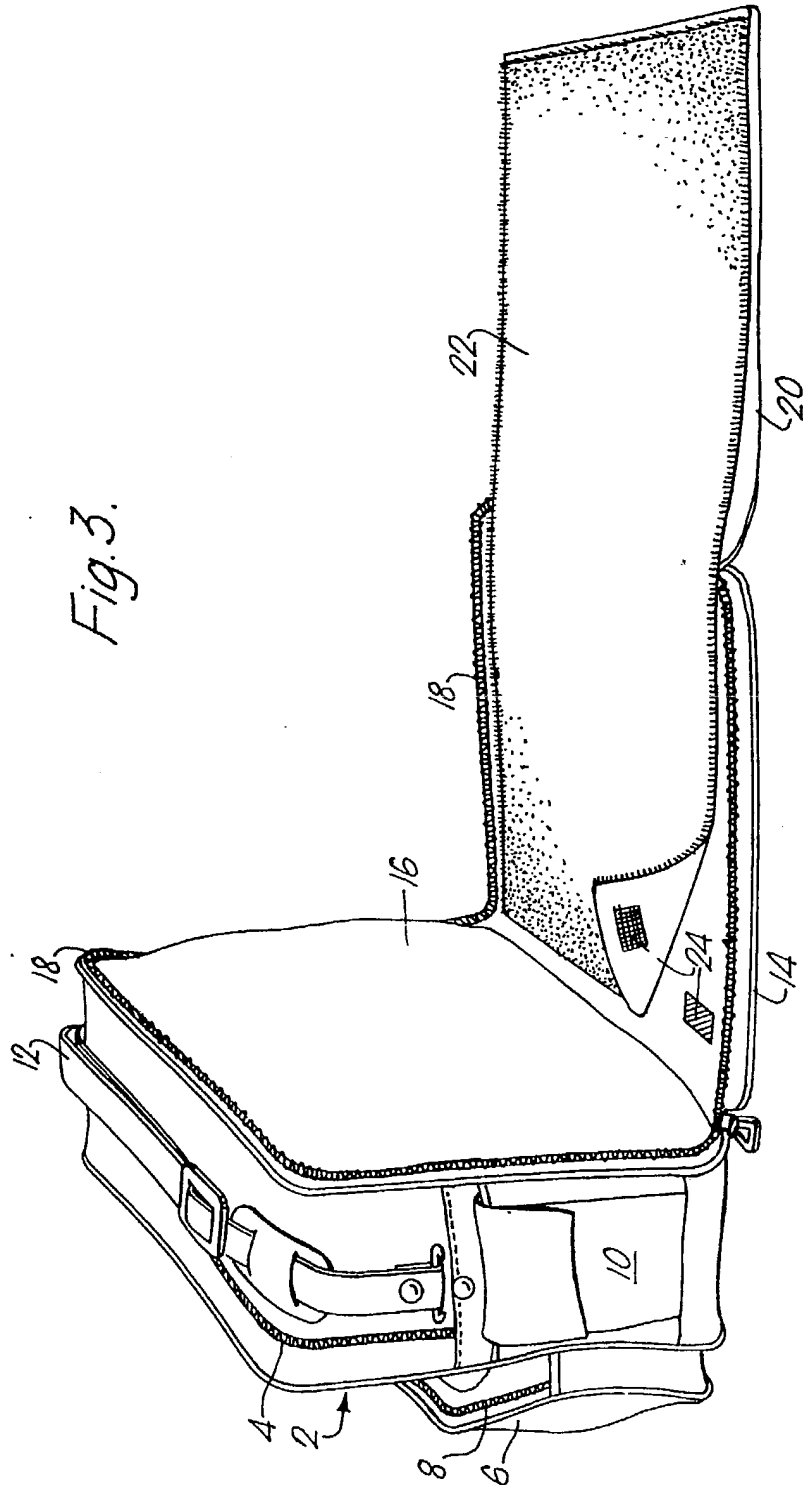


Fig. 3.



SPECIFICATION

Bag

5 This invention relates to bags.

According to the invention there is provided a bag having a sheet detachably attached thereto in such a manner that it can be laid flat on a supporting surface so that an infant can be laid thereon.

10 As will be described below with reference to the preferred embodiment of the invention, such a bag can provide the user with a readily available surface, wherever the user may go, which is suitable for laying an infant thereon in order to change the infant's nappy.

The sheet is preferably made of an absorbent fabric, such as cotton towelling, flannel or other nappy-like material.

20 The sheet preferably has not only a use position, in which it is laid flat, but also a store position in which it is kept when the bag is being carried. The sheet may be rolled or folded when in its store position, and means may be provided for securing the sheet in this position.

25 In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the sheet is detachably attached face-to-face with a further sheet forming part of, and preferably fixedly attached to, the bag. The sheets may be attached together by fabric fastening means, such as Velcro.

30 In the store position, the sheets preferably lay against the side of the bag, with the fixed sheet outermost. This fixed sheet is preferably attached along one end to the bag, so that the sheets are moved to the use position by opening them about the line of attachment.

35 In the preferred embodiment, the sheets themselves are folded when in the store position. For example, there may be a single fold approximately half-way along the lengths of the sheets, with the detachable sheet folded back on itself. Thus, the sheets can easily be brought to the position of use by swinging the folded sheets away from the bag and then unfolding the sheets.

45 The sheets may be secured in their store position by, for example, straps or more preferably one or more zips, the or each of which has one side on the main body of the bag and the other side on the fixed sheet. If the sheets are folded when in the store position, the zip or zips may extend along each side of the fixed sheet from the line of attachment to a position part-way along the length, for example half-way, then along what is in use the underside of the fixed sheet.

50 An arrangement embodying the invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bag in accordance with the invention;

60 Figure 2 is another perspective view showing the detachable sheet of the bag being unfolded to its position of use; and

Figure 3 shows the bag with its detachable sheet in

the use position.

65 The bag 2 shown in the drawings is generally rectangular in side elevation, and has a zip 4, which extends along its upper surface and part-way down each of its end surfaces, by means of which a user may gain access to the interior of the bag. The bag is provided with a pocket 6 on one side thereof, the pocket 6 having a zip 8 for allowing access to the interior thereof, and another pocket 10 at one end of the bag. The bag has an adjustable strap 12, the ends of which are attached to respective end surfaces of the bag, for use in carrying the bag.

70 A flap 14 has one side attached to the lower edge of the side 16 of the bag which is opposite to the side on which the pocket 6 is mounted. One side of a zip 18 extends around the other three sides of the flap 14, and the other side of the zip extends around the corresponding edges of the side 16 of the bag. When the zip is closed, the flap 14 is therefore attached by all its sides to the side 16 of the bag. When the zip is open, the flap 14 can be pivoted downwardly about its fixed side onto a supporting surface.

85 A fixed sheet 20 having a length which is about twice the height of the flap 14 is attached to the bag, by sewing, in such a manner that one half of the sheet is fixed to the inner surface of the flap 14. The other half of the sheet 20 can be folded about a line of attachment which extends along the upper side of the flap 14.

90 The sheet 20 and the flap 14 thus form a composite sheet attached to the bag which can be pivoted downwardly from the side 16 of the bag and then unfolded about its mid portion so as to lay flat on a supporting surface.

95 A detachable, absorbent sheet of fabric, 22, is attached to the surface of the sheet 20 which is uppermost when the sheet is laid flat on a supporting surface. The sheet 22 is formed of towelling or flannel, and is detachably attached to the sheet 20 by means of an attachable pair of pieces of Velcro at each of the corners of the sheets, one of the pairs of pieces being indicated at 24.

100 With the sheets laid flat on a supporting surface, as shown in Figure 3, an infant can be laid on the absorbent sheet 22, and the infant's nappy changed. The absorbent sheet 22 can easily be removed from the bag for washing, and the washed sheet, or another similar sheet, easily reattached to the bag.

110 When the bag is to be carried, the composite, fixed sheet formed by the flap 14 and the sheet 20, together with the absorbent sheet 22, are folded as indicated in Figure 2, and the folded sheets are then brought upwardly as indicated in Figure 1 to a position in which the zip 18 can be closed.

115 The bag 10, including the sheet 20, is made from PVC, although other materials can be used.

CLAIMS

120 1. A bag having a sheet detachably attached thereto in such a manner that the sheet can be laid flat on a supporting surface so that an infant can be laid thereon.

2. A bag as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sheet

is made of absorbent fabric.

3. A bag as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the sheet can also be placed in a store position, the bag having means for securing the sheet in the store position.

5 4. A bag as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the sheet is detachably attached face-to-face with a further sheet forming part of the bag.

10 5. A bag as claimed in claim 4, wherein the sheets are attached together by fabric fastening means.

6. A bag as claimed in claim 4 or 5, when appendent to claim 3, wherein, in the store position, the sheets lay against a side of the bag, with the further sheet outermost.

7. A bag as claimed in claim 6, wherein the further sheet is attached along an end thereof to the bag, the sheets being movable to a use position in which they are laid flat by opening them about the line of attachment.

8. A bag as claimed in claim 6 or 7, wherein the sheets are folded when in the store position.

9. A bag as claimed in any one of claims 4 to 8, when appendent to claim 3, wherein the securing means has a part thereof fixed to the further sheet, and another part thereof fixed to the rest of the bag, so as to secure the first-mentioned sheet by holding together the further sheet and the rest of the bag.

10. A bag as claimed in claim 9 when appendent to claim 8, wherein the securing means comprises one or more zips extending along each side of the further sheet from the line of attachment of the further sheet to the bag to a position part-way along the length of the further sheet, and then along what is in use the underside of the further sheet.

11. A bag substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.